

Appl. No. 09/972,181
 Amdt. dated Jun. 16, 2005
 Reply to Office action of Apr. 20, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

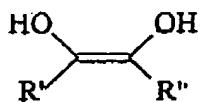
1. (Currently amended) A composition, comprising:

an oxidizable a first compound having a first stability towards an oxidation, the first oxidizable compound further having an electron donating group, and wherein the first oxidizable compound comprises an oxidizable group selected from the group consisting of at least one of a vicinal diol and a hydroxy in vicinal position to a keto or O⁻ group;

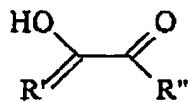
an electrophilic a second metal-containing compound, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of that comprises a group thirteen or group fourteen metal, and wherein the second compound and accepts electrons from the electron donating group, thereby forming a complex between the oxidizable first compound and the electrophilic second compound, wherein the oxidizable first compound in the complex has a second stability towards the oxidation; and

wherein the second stability is greater than the first stability.

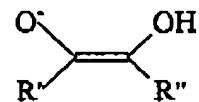
2. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the oxidizable group compound includes has a structure according to structures 1-3



(1)



(2)



(3)

wherein R' and R'' are independently selected from a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, alkaryl;

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wherein the substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, alkaryl optionally include a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of O, S, N, Se, and P; and wherein the substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, alkaryl in R' and R" optionally together form a substituted or unsubstituted ring.

3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the hydroxy groups in the vicinal diol in the first oxidizable compound are in conjugation with at least one double bond in the first oxidizable compound.
6. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the first oxidizable compound is selected from the group consisting of an ascorbic acid, a salicylic acid, and a catechin.
7. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the electron-donating group is a hydroxyl group.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the second electrophilic compound is a borate or a silicate.
11. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the second stability is at least five times greater than the first stability
12. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the second stability is at least fifty times greater than the first stability.
13. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the second stability is at least five hundred times greater than the first stability.

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14. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the oxidation is a reaction of an alcohol group in the first oxidizable compound into a keto group in an aqueous system.
15. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the complex is an anionic complex.
16. (Original) The composition of claim 15 further comprising a counter ion selected from the group consisting of a potassium cation, a sodium cation, an ammonium cation, a calcium cation, and a trimethyl-methyl-ammonium cation.
17. (Currently amended) A method of increasing chemical stability of a compound, comprising,

providing an oxidizable a first compound having a first stability towards an oxidation, the first oxidizable compound further having an electron donating group, and wherein the first oxidizable compound comprises an oxidizable group selected from the group consisting of at least one of a vicinal diol and a hydroxy in vicinal position to a keto or O' group;

providing an electrophilic a second metal-containing compound, wherein the metal is selected from the group consisting of that comprises a group thirteen or group fourteen metal, and wherein the second compound and accepts an electron from the electron donating group;

forming a complex between the first oxidizable-compound and the second electrophilic compound, wherein the first oxidizable-compound in the complex has a second stability towards the oxidation, and wherein the second stability is greater than the first stability.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

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20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the first oxidizable compound is selected from the group consisting of an ascorbic acid, a salicylic acid, and a catechin, and wherein the second electrophilic compound comprises a borate, and wherein the second stability is five hundred times greater than the first stability.